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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/781,638	02/20/2004	Tomoko Adachi	00862.100124.	3438
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EXAMINER				
SANDOVAL, KRISTIN D				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/781,638

Applicant(s)

ADACHI, TOMOKO

Examiner

KRISTIN D. SANDOVAL

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 January 2008.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/5508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-19 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 8, 10, 17, 19 and 20 state the limitation, "wherein the entering unit **can** enter, in a case where any of the user identification information displayed on the displaying unit is selected, the user identification information (emphasis added)". The use of "can" implies that the entering unit **is able** to enter user identification information in the case where user identification information displayed is selected but **does not actually enter user identification in this case**. The entering unit could but it does not have to. If the entering unit **does**, in fact, enter user identification information, it is unclear when the case of user identification being selected occurs. The claims recite the limitation, "displaying unit configured to display user identification

information based on the login history held in the holding unit." However, no user identification is ever selected and no selecting means is ever mentioned.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 8, 10, 17, 19 and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kondo et al. (Kondo), U.S. Patent No. 5,684,957.

As per claims 1, 8, 10, 17, 19 and 20:

Kondo discloses a computer-readable storage medium on which is stored a computer-executable program for implementing a data processing method for displaying, on a data processing device, an entry screen for entering user identification information and password information, comprising the steps of:

storing, in a storage unit, user identification information and password information for each of a plurality of users, the user identification information and the password information being associated with each other;

setting information whether to hold user identification information;

allowing a display unit to display the user identification information that is set to be held at said setting step on the entry screen;

entering, on the entry screen, user identification information and password information; causing a holding unit to hold login history of the user corresponding to the entered user identification information without requesting the user to set information whether to hold the login history in a case where the entered user identification information corresponds to a first type of user; and

allowing the user to set information whether to hold the login history in a case where the entered user identification information corresponds to a second type of user,

wherein the user identification information is entered in the entering step in a case where any of the displayed user identification information is selected (4:60-5:4 wherein a general user and privileged user constitute two types of users, 17:29-55 wherein a privileged user is the user type in which the login history is held without needing to be set and a general user's history is not automatically held).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 11, 13-14 and 16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kondo in view of Snapper et al. (Snapper), U.S. Patent No. 7,216,292.

As per claims 2 and 11:

Kondo fails to teach allowing a user to set whether to leave a login history or not. However, Snapper discloses a device wherein said setting means provides user interface for allowing a user to set whether to leave a login history or not on a login screen presented to the user at a login operation (figs. 4A-C).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set for a user to allow a login history to be left in order to reduce the redundant information users must enter when logging into a system as taught by Snapper (3:10-21).

As per claims 4 and 13:

Kondo fails to teach login histories that do not contain information on a user for a plurality of times. However, Snapper discloses a device wherein said login histories are administered so as not to contain information on a user for a plurality of times (16:16-35).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set for a user to allow a login history to be left in order to reduce the redundant information users must enter when logging into a system as taught by Snapper (3:10-21).

As per claims 5 and 14:

Kondo fails to teach classification information. However, Snapper discloses a device wherein said authentication information contains classification information for classifying each user as the first type or the second type, and wherein said holding means holds login histories for each of said first type and said second type (15:54-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set for a user to allow a login history to be left in order to reduce the redundant information users must enter when logging into a system as taught by Snapper (3:10-21).

As per claims 7 and 16:

Snapper further discloses a device wherein said setting means automatically sets login histories to be held for the users set as said first type and provides user interface allowing the users set as said second type to set whether to leave a login history or not on a login screen presented to the user at the login operation (15:54-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set for a user to allow a login history to be left in order to reduce the redundant information users must enter when logging into a system as taught by Snapper (3:10-21).

6. Claims 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kondo in view of Capps, U.S. Patent No. 5,666,502.

As per claims 3, 9, 12 and 18:

Kondo fails to teach setting the number of users whose login histories are held and then holding that many. However, Capps discloses setting the number 5 as the amount of names that can be held in the database (11:1-14).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set a limit to the amount of names to be stored since if too many are accumulated it can be difficult for the user to make a selection quickly as taught by Capps (2:1-13).

As per claims 6 and 15:

Kondo fails to teach setting a number of entries to be stored for each of two different types. However, Capps discloses a histories list being displayed for the different data fields, which are different types of information, and a limit to the number to be stored in each data field list (10:56-11:14).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to set a limit to the amount of names to be stored since if too many are accumulated it can be difficult for the user to make a selection quickly as taught by Capps (2:1-13).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KRISTIN D. SANDOVAL whose telephone number is (571)272-7958. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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